

Application No. 10/753,138

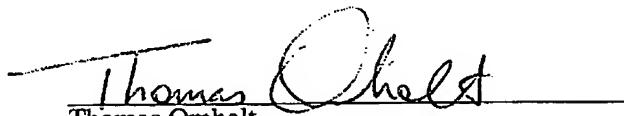
Reply to Office Action

REMARKS***The Pending Claims***

The pending claims are directed to a method of chemically-mechanically polishing a substrate. Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-19, 21, and 32-39 are currently pending. New claims 40-43 were introduced in the Reply mailed April 26, 2006. The new claims were non-compliant with current amendment practice under 37 CFR 1.121 for failing to provide each claim with the proper identifier status. The listing of claims submitted with this response contains the proper status identifiers. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that with the current Reply and the Reply filed April 26, 2006, the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative for the applicants.

Respectfully submitted,



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